

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~ A device for applying a substance onto keratinous fibers, eyelashes or eyebrows, the applicator comprising:

a rod having a longitudinal axis and an end; ~~extending along said longitudinal axis; and~~

a brush fixed to said end of said rod, said brush including:

a twisted-wire core fixed to said end of said rod, said core having a bristle-carrying portion and a remote end; and

a plurality of bristles extending from said bristle-carrying portion of said twisted-wire core, ~~wherein the said twisted-wire core is bent~~ being oriented such that ~~substantially all points of said bristle-carrying portion make a non-zero~~ forms an angle greater than about 0° and less than about 20° relative to said longitudinal axis of ~~said end of said rod; and that is less than about 20°.~~

a receptacle adapted to receive said rod and said brush in an assembled condition, said receptacle having an inner wall, said rod and said brush being spaced from said inner wall in said assembled condition.

2. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~ The device according to claim 1, wherein said bristles have free ends which define an envelope surface, said envelope surface having a cross-section, said cross-section being of non-circular at ~~cross-section along~~ at least one point along ~~of~~ said bristle-carrying portion.

3. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said bristle-carrying portion is substantially rectilinear.

4. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 2, wherein said bristle-carrying portion includes a middle and a distal end portion extending from said middle to a free end of said bristle-carrying portion, and ~~wherein said longitudinal axis of said end of said rod intersects~~intersecting said envelope surface of said distal end portion.

5. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein ~~substantially all points of said~~bristle-carrying portion of said core forms an angle, greater than about 0° and less than about 15° relative to said longitudinal axis of ~~said end of said rod of less than about 15°.~~

6. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said bristle-carrying portion ~~of said core~~forms an angle greater than about 0° and of less than about 10° relative to said longitudinal axis of said rod.

7. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~angle formed by the~~bristle-carrying portion forms an angle of between about 0.2° and about 15°~~of said core,~~ relative to said longitudinal axis of ~~said end of said rod, is between about 0.2° and about 15°.~~

8. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said bristle-carrying portion ~~of said core~~forms an angle of between about 1° and about 10° relative to said longitudinal axis of ~~said end of said rod between about 1° and about 10°.~~

9. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said bristle-carrying portion ~~of said core~~ forms an angle of between 5° and about 10° relative to said longitudinal axis of said ~~end between about 5° and about 10°~~rod.

10. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said rod of said bristle-carrying portion of said core includes a~~said remote end of said core is situated at a distance from said longitudinal axis of less than about 7.5 mm.

11. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said rod of said bristle-carrying portion of said core includes a~~said remote end of said core is situated at a distance from said longitudinal axis of less than about 4.5 mm.

12. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said brush includes at least one longitudinal ridge.

13. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 9, wherein said brush includes between two to and eight of said ridges.

14. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said brush includes at least one ~~plane~~planar or concave face.

15. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein ~~when said brush is observed in a cross-section, of said brush including~~includes at least one convex ~~face surface~~surface having a radius of curvature, ~~that is~~ greater than a length of a longest bristle extending from said core in said bristle-carrying portion.

16. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said core includes at least two twisted-together strands.

17. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 16, wherein said at least two strands are twisted together with a left-hand pitch.

18. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 16, wherein said at least two strands are twisted together with a right-hand pitch.

19. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 2, wherein said cross-section of said envelope surface is of-is constant cross-section over most a majority of the length of-said bristle-carrying portion of said core.

20. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 2, wherein said cross-section in at least a portion of said envelope surface has at least one portion having a varying cross-section differs from said cross-section in a remainder of said envelope surface.

21. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 2, wherein said cross-section in at least a portion of said envelope surface has at least one portion having a cross-section that varies differs in size but not in shape from said cross-section in a remainder of said envelope surface.

22. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 2, wherein said cross-section of said envelope surface at , along-at least one point of-along said core, has a general shape selected from the group consisting of- polygonal, triangular, square, pentagonal, hexagonal; oblong, oval,

lenticular, star-shaped, star-shaped with three to six branches and keyhole-shaped.

23. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 2, wherein said core defines the center of symmetry for at least one cross-section of said envelope surface.

24. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim ~~±2~~, wherein said core is off-center from said envelope surface at ~~along~~ at least one point ~~along the length of said brush~~ said bristle carrying portion.

25. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said brush including ~~including~~ includes at least two sets of bristles of different diameters.

26. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~including at least one set of bristles~~ are made of a resilient material.

27. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~including at least one set of bristles including~~ include a compound making it easier to slide over keratinous fibers.

28. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 27, wherein said compound is a particulate compound.

29. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, further including a handle, ~~and~~ wherein said rod is connected to said handle.

30. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 29, wherein said receptacle has an open end, and said handle is arranged to close in sealed manner a said open end of

said receptacle containing said substance to be applied in a sealed manner in said assembled condition.

31. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said longitudinal axis of said twisted core of said bristle-carrying portion of said core extends~~ lies entirely on ~~the same one~~ side of a plane containing said longitudinal axis of ~~said end of said rod.~~

32. (currently amended) ~~An applicator~~The device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said rod of said bristle-carrying portion includes a remote~~ has a free end, said free end being ~~which constitutes a furthest~~ further point of said bristle-carrying portion from said longitudinal axis of ~~said end of said rod~~ than any other portion of said bristle-carrying portion.

33. (cancelled)

34. (currently amended) ~~A~~The device according to claim ~~33~~1, further comprising a wiper disposed in said receptacle such that said wiper ~~a manner as to wipes~~ said brush ~~when it is being as said brush is~~ removed from said receptacle.